

Date: October 15, 2001

To: The Record
Health Facilities Advisory Committee (HFAC)

From: Recording Secretary, HFAC

Subject: July 11, 2001, HFAC Conference Call Minutes **(Final)**

Members, Alternates & Visitors

Present: CAPT José F. Cuzme, PE, Chairman, IHS/OPH/DFEE
CAPT Douglas C. Ott, PE, Vice Chairman, IHS/Alaska Area/OEHE
Ms Diane Stewart, AIA, Member, IHS/DFEE/ESD
CAPT Gary Mc Farland, PE, Member, IHS/Billings Area, OEHE
Mr. Kenneth R. Harper, PE, Member, IHS/DFEE/ESS
CAPT Paul Fardig, PE, Member, IHS/OPH/DFEE
CAPT Kerry M. Gragg, PE, Member, IHS/California Area/OEHE
LCDR Darrell LaRoche, PE, Member, IHS/Albuquerque Area, OEHE
Mr. Steven Christensen, PE, Alternate, IHS, DFEE/ESS
LCDR Gary Geffro, Alternate, IHS/Navajo Area Office, OEHE
CDR Bruce Etchison, Visitor, IHS, OPH,

Members

Absent: LCDR Merritt Lake, RS, Member, IHS/OPH/EHS

Introduction:

The conference call was conducted on July 11, 2001 beginning at 12:00 noon EDT. There were eight members, two alternates, and one visitor present. The minutes dated July 6, 2001 for the April 3, 2001 meeting in Oklahoma City were approved as amended.

Old Business:

(1) Indoor Air Quality

CAPT Cuzme spoke with LCDR Lake prior to the call who indicated he would send the committee additional information on this subject. Further discussion was postponed until the information is provided.

(2) Lessons Learned

CAPT McFarland reported approximately twenty-one lessons learned had been received. He is in the process of converting the documents to PDF files and should have them posted within a week. Most, submitted by Mr. Corliss, are from past Post Occupancy Surveys completed by the Engineering Services. Mr. Corliss has another batch of lessons learned pending that should be submitted soon. For Area lesson learned submissions, there needs to be a peer review process established prior to formally placing them on the web page. For now, CAPT McFarland will store them in a file. The workgroup will establish protocol for screening.

On the merger of the Real Property Report (RPR), Chapter 38-2 and the Project Final Report (PFR), Chapter 24-8, Mr. Corliss needs to participate from Chapter 24-8 facilities perspective. Since LCDR LaRoche is a member of the workgroup assigned to update Chapter 38, he will report back to the committee on the workgroup's progress.

(3) HFAC Web Page

Only programmers can change the portion of the web page listing the HFAC members. Corrections to this part

of the new web page are still needed. The documents (decisions) to be posted are now 508 compliant and will be posted when the programming revisions are completed.

(4) Metric

Under Title V of the Indian Self-Determination Act, as amended, the Tribe will determine the use of metric on a federally funded facilities project that will be tribally owned. For federally funded facilities that will be federally owned, Title V provides a means of negotiating in the metric requirement into a 638-construction project agreement.

Generally, the IHS policy for using metric on federally projects is more stringent than the law. It is possible for the metric requirement to be waived on specific projects; housing may be a good example. The following was reported

- Billings and Alaska Tribes do not generally support metric.
- California has had only one fully metric project and fifty English. Soft metric is not as much a problem with the Tribes, but does create confusion and adds costs.
- Albuquerque's experience with metric is similar to California's.

Given the varying degrees of experience and differences of opinion on cost of requiring metric in the construction of health facilities, it was suggested that CAPT Fardig bring up some of these issues with the Metric Council at their next meeting.

(5) Lead-Based Paint Policy

CDR Bruce Etchison gave a presentation on the history of the current draft policy dated 6-27-01 before the committee. It is expected this new draft policy if approved may replace the current IHS guidance on removal of Lead, as specified in IHS Technical Handbook for Environmental Health and Engineering (see Chapter 111-2).

Points made in the presentation and committee membership discussion included the following:

- There has been **no input from facility management staff** in Environmental Health and Engineering on the new draft policy. **Input is especially needed on Item 4 b of the policy under testing**, as one of the choices involves the facility managers establishing a schedule for testing lead in the quarters.
- The existing Technical Handbook Chapter guideline for lead removal authored by George Burns is outdated and needs to be replaced.
- Testing for lead in quarters in the Phoenix Area using the XRF Method takes approximately three hours and costs \$200 - \$300 dollars per housing unit.
- The Billings Area experience is that all quarters beyond a certain age contain lead paint. Assumption should be if the quarters were built pre-1978, they are likely to contain lead paint and should be tested.
- To date there does not seem to be a problem with elevated lead levels in children living in IHS quarters, however no routine blood testing is occurring either.
- The Division of Environmental Health manpower resources are inadequate to complete lead testing on quarters as originally envisioned when the current guideline was adopted.
- If lead is identified in a particular unit of quarters, periodic re-inspection is required.
- Need to distribute the draft policy dated 6-21-01 to the Facility Managers for comment. Comments should be due on August 31, 2001.
- Once comments are received a decision is needed regarding how to implement the draft policy, either to integrate into the current Technical Handbook Chapter or have the draft policy completely replace the current Chapter.

New Business:

None

Other Issues:

(1) Alternates for new members

Alternate representatives still need to be designated for CAPT Gragg and CAPT Fardig.

The next HFAC conference call was tentatively set for October 3, 200 at 12 noon Eastern Time (ET). The meeting was adjourned 1:00 p.m. EDT.

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